



UNDERSTANDING FIREBLOCK



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INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Polyurethane foam has been used for decades in many residential construction sealing applications



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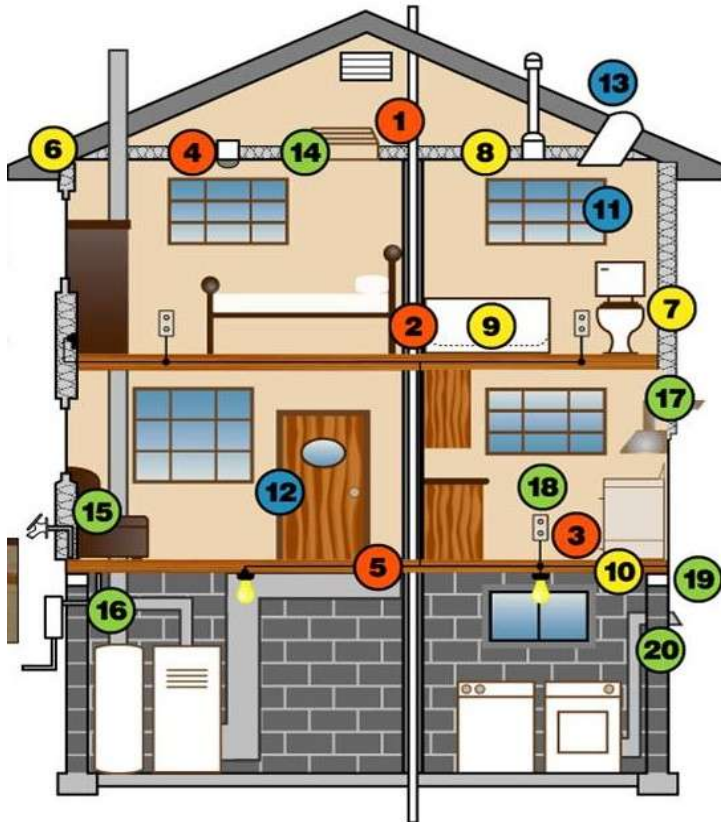
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INDUSTRY TRENDS

- In recent years, “Fireblocking” has been prescribed more and more by the model building codes, for use in defined areas.



- The 2000 International Building Code (IBC) and International Residential Code (IRC) (in Section R602.8) identify fireblocking materials as “approved material to resist the free passage of flame and the products of combustion.”
- New science and testing has now demonstrated that PU foam can be used safely as a “fireblock”, provided the foam is evaluated and tested for these applications

Go to www.fomo.com to view this numbered house diagram, showing the various areas where PU foam is traditionally used.



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DEFINING FIREBLOCK VERSUS FIRESTOP*

- There is a significant difference between a “fireblock” and a “firestop”.
 - A fireblock is approved for use in Type V combustible construction (i.e. residential housing). For example, fireblock is not for use in commercial fire rated walls.
 - A firestop is tested in a specific construction detail for use in commercial or industrial fire rated walls and assemblies. For example, firestop is specified for use in one-hour or two-hour fire rated walls.

*For more information, please visit <http://www.fomo.com/building-technologies/from-the-experts/fireblock-vs-firestop.aspx>



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FIREBLOCK USAGE

- Handi-Foam® Fireblock is used to seal concealed penetrations from floor to floor or room to room in residential construction (type V or “combustible”) to block the passage of flame and smoke.
- Handi-Foam® Fireblock can replace traditional fireblock materials, including E 136 caulks.



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FIREBLOCK LOCATIONS

Per IRC Section R602.8: Fireblocking shall be provided in wood frame construction in the following locations;

- Openings around vents, pipes or ducts occurring at ceiling or floor level
- Stud walls and partitions at the ceiling and floor level



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FIREBLOCK LOCATIONS (CONT.)

- Interconnections between concealed spaces that occur at soffit, drop or cove ceilings
- Concealed spaces between stair stringers at the top and bottom of run



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FIREBLOCK TESTING

- Fomo Products, Inc. has worked closely with The International Code Council Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) to evaluate Handi-Foam Fireblock Foam as an approved material for fireblock applications.
- ASTM E 814 (modified without a hose stream test) is designated by ICC-ES for large-scale comparative testing of polyurethane foam and other prescribed fireblock materials.



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FIREBLOCK TESTING

ASTM E 814 vs. ASTM E 136 vs. ASTM E 84

- **ASTM E 814 is a large scale composite assembly fire test**
 - This test, which has traditionally been used for “firestop” materials, tests the foam sealant using actual penetrations and substrates to simulate application conditions
- **ASTM E 136 is a small scale material test**
 - This test rates a material for its combustion properties, and there is no possibility for simulated building assembly
- **Additionally, Handi-Foam Fireblock is classified by Underwriters Laboratories according to ASTM E 84 for Caulking and Sealants**
 - This test rates various combustible building materials according to “Flame Spread” and “Smoke Development”, and is further evidence of Fomo Products’ commitment to safety, consistency and product quality



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APPROVED FIREBLOCK MATERIALS

Summary of commercial techniques utilized for fireblock sealing;

- **Prescriptive Materials**
 - These include, for example, dimensional lumber, wood structural panels, gypsum board, mineral wool or fiberglass
- **“Non-combustible” products tested to ASTM E 136**
 - Primarily gunnable tube-type caulks
- **Approved alternate materials**
 - Such as Handi-Foam Fireblock polyurethane foam, evaluated by ICC-ES and tested according to ASTM E 814 (modified)



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WHY POLYURETHANE FOAM?

- Handi-Foam® Fireblock is easier to apply than standard fireblock materials
- recognizable orange color
- ASTM E-84 Class 1 foam



foam provides time and cost savings



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HANDI-FOAM® FIREBLOCK VS. CAULK

- **Handi-Foam® Fireblock**

- more effective than traditional fireblock materials at blocking flames and smoke
- more cost effective than standard fiberglass and caulks
- seals, bonds, insulates, fills, and stops air infiltration



- **standard caulk**

- may be subject to "minimal shrinkage"- allowing smoke and air infiltration
- approximately 30 standard tubes of caulk is equal to one 24oz. Can of Handi-Foam® Fireblock



Handi-Foam® Fireblock is cost efficient



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MEET THE NEW ADDITION...HANDI-FOAM® FIREBLOCK



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**For additional resources, technical
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